

TASMANIAN UFO INVESTIGATION CENTRE
OCTOBER 1980 Newsletter (No 31)
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Talking Point

Enclosed with your Newsletter is a questionnaire regarding the future Meetings during 1981. Membership of the Centre is at present nearly a record number whilst our financial position is sound.

However, attendance at meetings has been declining for some time; the Executive assumes that the majority of members is happy to receive sightings information via the medium of Newsletters and Annual Reports.

The reason then for the questionnaire is to enable an early decision to be made on the location, time, if any, etc. etc. of future meetings. It would be appreciated if you could complete and return the form as soon as possible.

Contact from any member who feels he can assist in some way would be appreciated.

SIGHTINGS

A few reports have come into the Centre during the mid-year period but the total of investigations is still well below the levels of other years. Fifty investigations have been handled to date, roughly 50% below the trend in recent years.....

September 1979 CE 1 04.00 5 mins. 1 witness FORCETT

The witness who is a log truck driver was heading to work early on the Arthur Highway between Copping and Forcett when he noticed two large white lights to his east.

The lights were slowly cutting across his direction of travel and in fact seemed to cross the road 50-100 mts. ahead of his car. Their elevation was estimated at 200 mts. There was no noise.

As the lights approached he could see the ground below lit by a wide area of light. In fact for 10 seconds when at its closest the UFO lit up the witness's car as if he was passing below a street light. There was no effect on the motor vehicle. The lights did not change their appearance although going away to the north-west and were eventually blocked by the hills from further viewing.

Value 2B.

April 1980 CE 1 22.00 3 mins. 2 witnesses BUCKLAND

Two witnesses were returning home when they noticed a red light over Buckland Church. The light had an apparent size of the moon and was very low just passing over the trees by the church.

The witnesses were very puzzled by the absence of any noise as the object was estimated to be 150 mts distant and only 50 mts. above the ground. It looked to be following the Tasman Highway for a short distance then swung away towards the south-east. Its appearance now changed to a star-sized white light and it kept on a straight course until lost from sight over the distant hills.

Value 3B.

April 1980 NL 23.00 15/20 mins. 4 witnesses MIDDLETON

The four witnesses were returning from Middleton to Oyster Cove on a fine clear evening. Turning onto the Channel Highway the witnesses noticed three lights low over the tree tops to the north. They were large star-sized lights; the centre light was white; the two side lights were smaller and orange coloured. The lights seemed to be getting closer and so low they were in front of nearby hills. As they drove on the lights seemed to go higher in the sky and to a position ahead of the car. They remained in this position as they drove to Kettering. They stopped here but could not see the lights dur to roadside trees. They drove the last few kilometres to Oyster Cove and stopped in time to see the lights move to the west, then the side lights faded out and the centre light followed suite in about half a minute. Value 2B.

June 6th 1980 Ce 1 20.30 10 mins. 2 witnesses MURDUNNA

Two boys aged 12 and 13 were on holidays at a Murdunna farm. They were doing some shooting and checking traps some distance from the farm. Initially an extra large white light was seen in the sky to the north-west; they did not take much notice at this stage and continued looking for traps and flashing their torch around. Some minutes later they came back into the paddock and spotted a bandicoot

(Contd.)

NOTE: The next meeting date is Friday October 10th. Location BP Theatrette, City Mutual Building, 4/ Liverpool St. Starts 8pm.

in their torch beam. They then noticed two areas of light on the paddock about 2/3mts. away. They just seemed to come from nowhere and were circling around. Then the boys noticed above a tree 30mts. to their north a large round silver shape ($\frac{3}{4}$ moon size) at an elevation of about 30 mts. The shape had a glittering edge but no other detail, despite being bright it did not light up the tree or ground below. One of the boys hid behind some bushes then when it looked to be coming closer they ran away as fast as they could. One of the boys looked back after 100 mts. but there was nothing to see anymore. The boys' grandmother reported they were in a state of fright when they arrived home. Value 4.B.

June 16th NL 21.00 3 times 2 witnesses CADBURY'S POINT

Witness was fishing with a friend off Cadbury's Point in the Derwent River. About 9pm two Venus-sized lights were seen to the west travelling rapidly to the north. They were only in view a few seconds. About an hour later the same or similar two white lights came in the same formation from the north heading to a position in the north-east sky. The lights came to an abrupt stop and dashed back on their original flight path. Some 15 minutes later the process was repeated except this time two smaller dullish red lights were visible to each side. Again the lights stopped for 10 seconds then the reddish lights faded and the two white lights disappeared at high speed to the north. Value 1B.

June 18th 1980 NL 20.30 5 mins 2 witnesses TUNNEL HILL

Witness outside getting in washing noticed a large orange light to the south-east, then her husband came out to have a look also. Two smaller orange lights then appeared to the right of the first light. The larger light sent out an orange pencil-like streak of light. The two smaller lights then moved together before moving to the larger light and merging with same. The original light then faded out. Value 1B.

July 6th 1980 CE2 02.10 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ mins. 2 witnesses MOUNTAIN CREEK

The witnesses were in a vehicle in rough country well north of Lake Sorell for some shooting. One witness was out of the vehicle with their dog. The driver meanwhile noticed some lights 300 mts. distant by some teatrees on the plain. There was a flickering red light flanked by two white lights and a green-yellowish phosphorous glow below. The UFO was stationary at or just above the ground. Then the object which seemed to be rotating moved off just above the ground for some distance making a whirring noise before it shot up into the sky at great speed and dwindled into a dot. The dog, apparently upset, returned to the vehicle with its hair on end. At the time of investigation the dog was still timid and wanted to get inside the witnesses' house every night. Value 5B.

UFO SCARES HOUSEWIFE MOTORIST. Advocate 23.8.80

LONDON (A.A.P.-P.A.) - Housewife Lillian Middleton (33) drove the fastest 16 kilometres of her life when she saw an unidentified flying object hovering above the roof of her car. Police are treating seriously her claims that she was followed at speeds of up to 110km/h by the mystery object. Today she was still too shocked to talk of her ordeal. Her husband, John, said 'This really terrified her. Neither of us has ever had the car go faster than 80 km/h, but she was so shocked that she just wanted to get away. I am keeping an open mind but my wife is not the type to invent things. She said the object was as big as her car and at times was almost touching the roof. It had a brilliant white light but every time she stopped the car it zoomed back in the air and hovered above her.' Police said the object had been spotted by a number of other people on the quiet moorland road between the two villages of Earsdon and Holywell early yesterday morning.

A police spokesman said: 'We are treating this seriously because a number of different people saw the same thing.'

At one time quite a few people at an all-night garage were watching this object.

Mr. Middleton said: 'Although it hasn't put my wife off driving, I think it will be a long time before she goes on her own at night.'